

Dear Judge Kravitz,

Thank you for your e-mail of December 11, 2008. Frankly, you have helped to clear the air on the matter of my participation in the public hearings on proposed amendments to Rule 56.

I will be delighted to participate <u>via</u> video conference (or, if that fails to work out, then to participate by telephone) in the February 2, 2009, hearing at San Francisco. I will pass on to Chief Judge Sedwick that he might wish to participate in a similar manner.

I will be out of the District of Alaska from now until January 5, 2009; in the meantime, my judicial assistant will be in a position to communicate with me as necessary.

I assume the Committee would still want to have an outline of my proposed testimony in advance of the February 2 hearing, and I will look to Mr.Ishida to provide us with details as we get closer to the hearing date.

Again, thank you for your assistance in facilitating my participation in this proceeding.

--HRH *********